

Next meeting of Faculty Senate will be on March 27, 1997. The first part of the meeting will be conducted during the common hour, 11:45-12:45 AM, in TRAHERN 401 with reports from committees, and old and new business being conducted. The second part of the meeting will be at 3:45 PM the same day, in TRAHERN 401 with reports from Dr. Rinella and Dr. Pontius. All interested faculty members are invited to attend.

**Unapproved Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Faculty Senate, APSU
February 20, 1997**

Senators Present: Patrick Bunton, Wayne Chaffin, Don Dailey, Thomas Dixon, Arthur Eaves, Deborah Fetch, Daniel Frederick, Mark Ginn, James Goode, Buddy Grah, Kay Haralson, Carlette Hardin, Tom King, Larry Lowrance, Maureen McCarthy, Bruce Myers, Stephanie Newport, David O'Drobinak, George Pesely, Michael Phillips, Jennie Preston-Sabin, Steve Ryan, Lori Slavin, Linda Thompson, David Till, Victor Ukpolo.

Meeting Called to Order: 3:45 pm

President David Till announced that the Faculty Senate would meet twice this month with today's meeting being a reporting meeting from Dr. Rinella, Dr. Pontius and the SLRP Committee. The second meeting for February will be next Thursday, February 27, at 3:45 pm to discuss old and new business.

Agenda was approved.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 30, 1997 were approved.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

President Sal Rinella:

1. The process which began last fall to move APSU toward non-competitive football ended today with the announcement of the new football coach, Bill Schmitz, previously coach at the Coast Guard Academy.
2. The Governors' basketball game tonight will determine the winner of the OVC. Bubba Wells was on the front page of the LA Times, and will be on the TODAY Show Monday morning. Having overcome adversity, he will be graduating this year and is a good example of the type of student we want to represent APSU.
3. The state appropriations for 97-98 will be 1.12 million less than this year. The budget has been submitted to the SLRP committee. A possible 4% increase in tuition could offset this shortfall by \$500,000. This year's budget contains \$200,000 in cuts which were to be made on a one time basis. These same budget cuts could be taken next year and would reduce our shortfall to approximately \$550,000. We could possibly increase our technology fee, which is currently \$15 per student, to \$50 per student. Tuition might increase by more than 4%, but revenue cannot be counted on; therefore we need to deal with a **potential shortfall of \$750,000-\$550,000**. There is reason to be concerned. The mood on campus is tentative. The Governor has committed \$192,000,000 to K-12 for 97-98. He plans in 98-99 to move these funds to higher education. The last two and a half years have been rough, and we have tried to protect instruction, but another lean year is ahead. Hopefully the faculty and staff salary study can be completed this year and will come up with amounts to bring us up to standards, with increase in salaries beginning gradually in 98-99. Now that we have a strategic long range plan, we are coming up with plans for the future. Wayne Chaffin and Buddy Grah are Faculty Senators on this committee. With the numbers before the SLRP committee, we are trying to open up the budget process so people will begin to know and understand the budget. There are a lot of changes occurring on our campus. Decisions should not be made by the President, but by all. We can weather this with openness, honesty and trust.
4. **Question and Answers:**
Q: Is the budget projection likely to change at all with the Governor's interaction with the legislature?

- A: The Governor has identified where the money is going that we are losing, it is going to K-12. We must work with the legislature to make sure the dollars go into higher ed at the end of the next fiscal year. At least this Governor has told us where he intends to get the money promised in the future.
- Q: With respect to the 97-98 budget, can we work on this assuming it will be as you have predicted?
- A: I think so. 98-99 should be the beginning of a better era. Several things relative to the budget were found in the study of formula funding a year ago, some changes have been made due to this study.
- Q: How much would we save if we eliminated some Deans?
- A: I don't know if you really want an answer to that question. If we eliminate 3 deans, maybe \$180,000.
- Q: I meant it as a suggestion.
- A: You have representatives on the SLRP Committee, you should discuss this suggestion with the Committee.

Dr. Steve Pontius:

1. The Ft. Campbell Task Force should report by March 1-10 relative to the final recommendation to be made to Academic Affairs. Sue Cloud Evans is chairing this Task Force.
 2. Everyone should have received in the mail a **Reorganization Process**. This was given by the Faculty Senate in December and the modified version has been given back today. Thanks for getting this in place this year.
 3. Everyone is encouraged to attend Academic Council and view what is going on. **The Liberal Arts Core passed unanimously in November**. A permanent subcommittee has been established to deal with all changes in the Liberal Arts Core. We are moving together as an academy to discuss many issues without regard to "turf", but by being open, fair and honest. I am pleased with the Academic Council, especially the Liberal Arts Core reform.
 4. There is a great deal of interest and discussion about the Culture in Context courses. Information will go back to the departments in a timely fashion so they can get feedback. This new requirement will go in the new bulletin which will be a 1 year bulletin only.
 5. In December the Deans Council agreed to establish a policy on Faculty Professional Development time. We looked at reassigned time, what was mandatory and what was flexible. The Council established 10 variables to assign points to each department. We now have a mechanism where all departments will have the opportunity for Faculty Development time. This is the first time many departments have ever had a chance for Faculty Development time. This will help to retain and attract the best faculty, and insure the quality and excellence of the faculty. It also addresses the SACS Study recommendation that there be more time available for faculty development. Individual departments are responsible for developing goals and objectives based on their departmental goals and the strategic long range plans. These funds are available in the existing budget. The Faculty Handbook Committee has spent much time in revising the section on faculty development.
 6. We want to brainstorm on what can be done to make summer school even better. We are trying to put information together on what summer school costs and collect data. There are a lot of questions, and we need to put it all together before information is reported, to avoid more questions.
 7. **Questions and Answers:**

Q: How would an individual or group go about proposing a change in the Liberal Arts Core?

A: The proposal should go from the department to the College Curriculum Committee, to the VPAA for cataloging, to Academic Council and then to the Liberal Arts Subcommittee of Academic Council.

Q: My understanding is that proposals received have been tabled.

A: I think they are being dealt with in the committee. The subcommittee reports to the Academic Council and then it goes back to the department.
- Comment:** The Culture in Context course may be the exception.
- Q: Once it is decided how much reassigned time each department has, who allocates the time?
- A: This is a decision for the entire department, not just the chair.
- Q: This is your understanding, but is it in writing?
- A: It will be put in the written guidelines for chairs and deans.
- Q: If I received reassigned time, would my department be using additional adjuncts to cover my classes?
- A: The Fall Schedule will incorporate this reassigned time. The department will decide how it will be handled. We are working within the existing reassigned time.
- Q: What would be the effect on NCATE accreditation? I don't think it is any news that most of the reassigned time comes from the Education Department. Previously, instructors in education taught 12 hours in the Fall and 9 hours in the Spring. I have been told this will no longer be the case. How will this effect accreditation?
- A: If departments work creatively, I am confident the school or college can live within the guidelines. The College of Education will still be the largest single recipient of reassigned time. There are accreditations associated with various departments across campus. We must be concerned with the needs of all faculty having

reassigned time available for scholarly activity.

Q: Isn't the formula funding tied to the College of Education being accredited?

A: That is true.

Q: You said that the reassigned time would be in the proposed schedule for fall, however the schedule is due to be turned in tomorrow and we have received no word about reassigned time allocated to our department.

A: The amount of reassigned time for each department was decided on yesterday. There might have to be some changes in the fall schedules, or hours might need to be stored for future semesters.

Q: It doesn't look as if this is any different from the past. Even if faculty are identified that should receive reassigned time, there still will not be people to cover their classes. This does not create additional opportunities. If the demand is still there for the courses, they will have to be taught.

A: In the future the system will be set up so there will be no overloads. We need to get rid of the overloads being taught by full time faculty. Hopefully we will be able to provide merit pay in the future for individuals who are very productive.

Q: You said you had subtracted out reassigned time for coordinating programs. After these are taken out, will there be new hours?

A: The hours deans and chairs thought were necessary to maintain the integrity of the university were taken out. What is left will be divided by the formula. Faculty sabbatical or faculty leave does not come out of this. The goal was to increase opportunities. In the past this was not funded in an organized way.

Q: If there is no new money to cover classes, we will still have to give up classes to fund the reassigned time.

A: If there is no increase in enrollment, there will still be the same number of classes. The existing reassigned time is being spread across the campus, based on the priorities of the university. We must come up with a creative way of doing this. The challenge is thrown out to you to take advantage of the opportunity being made available to all. The formula is fair and equitable. If a department can not use the reassigned time in the fall due to large number of classes, it can be banked for the Spring Semester.

David Till: This is a matter we will be working on and discussing for a good while.

Dr. Rinella and Dr. Pontius depart.

Strategic Long Range Planning Committee- Dr. Wayne Chaffin: I have asked Steve Anderson to talk to the Senate about the history and make up of the SLRP Committee.

Dr. Steve Anderson:

1. The SLRP Committee meeting yesterday revolved around budget information for the last five years, as well as other business. To give a brief history of the SLRP Committee: SLRP Committee is a Standing Committee, with the Senate Nominations and Elections Committee making recommendations for appointment. Dr. Harriet McQueen has been involved with this committee for many years. The original intent of the committee was to examine budget issues. Under Dr. Linda Rudolph when plans were submitted money would also be involved. The SLRP Committee was restructured to include six faculty (one the Vice President of the Faculty Senate), six administrators (to include the VP for Finance), six members from staff, students, and the community (to include four staff members, the SGA President and one member of the community). The Committee is chaired by a faculty member. When the restructuring occurred it was decided to maintain continuity of the committee by asking existing members to continue for another year. If the Senate would like to change the number of faculty representatives on the committee we can propose a change.

2. The next meeting is on March 4 at 2:30. Anyone wishing to attend and speak should call Dr. Harriet McQueen to be placed on the agenda. Everyone is free to come and listen. Dr. Rinella will be talking about budget issues at the Spring Convocation on February 25. The second meeting of the Committee in March is on March 25 in the Cumberland Room.

3. The budget issue does not look as bad as originally thought. During 1990-1992 we had a 14% budget reduction. We have increased our revenue over the last 5 years significantly due to increase in enrollment. If you are concerned about this, talk to one of the SLRP Committee representatives.

Q: Someone mentioned that this committee is for long range planning, were they asked about summer school?

A: The SLRP did not look at summer school, but the direction of the Committee is now changing. It has been put to the Committee to look at revisions of summer school issues. We are trying to pro-actively force the administration to address the issue.

Q: Suddenly the SLRP Committee is a different committee. Before it was not considered a very important committee, but now it is dealing with money. What exactly is included in long range planning?

A: The budget is allocated differently from the way TBR allocates money. It is hard to tell where money is being moved. We have talked to Sondra Hamilton and Al Irby, they are worried that faculty believe they are the

watchdog. It is the soft money being moved around. We do not yet have the revised October budget. We should have extra money through tuition increases, and by not paying the matching 401K for employees, which was in the original budget. We need to find out if we have more money now than we think we do.

Q: Did the decision concerning the Solutions Data Center go through the SLRP Committee?

A: No. I don't know how much money has been spent, or where it is coming from. It has been an unfunded concept.

Comment: This is the first time budget and long range planning have ever been brought together.

Q: It seems that we are putting many things in place this year which will cost a great deal of money. With cuts coming next year I see the academic side being cut, not these new expenditures.

A: We are spending more on academics this year than before. The President's budget has more money, but the same percentages.

Q: My concern is the number of expenditures added this year.

A: We do not know how money is being moved. Our job is to find \$750,000 for next year.

Q: There was a comment made about the budget being reported in a way mandated by the state, but does not relate to the university.

A: The President has proposed a BLUE BOOK to explain the budget. He also thinks that in a few years he will back away from the process. Dr. Rinella encourages faculty to be involved.

Dr. Wayne Chaffin: The budget planning process is in its third revision. The Committee is working on the budget for 98-99. We have had no input into short term decisions. In the fall there was a retreat involving over 100 people from campus (university planning council). From this came 10 goals and 55 objectives. Another retreat was held in January with 75-80 people present. This group took the 10 goals and 55 objectives and prioritized the objectives within each goal, and prioritized the goals. The objectives that float to the top will be identified in a couple of days. These will be tied to the strategic long range plans. Eventually a budget draft will be developed and a final draft presented to the SLRP Committee for input. It will then be taken to the entire faculty at Convocation. The budget presented to the TBR will first be presented to the faculty. Can anything be changed? I do not know.

Dr. Dolores Gore: Dr. Rinella did say the faculty could make suggestions.

Dr. Wayne Chaffin: Concerning the Reorganization Recommendation, there was slight altering of wording. We took out the ability of one unit to kill the process, if other units concerned wanted it to go forward.

Q: Since there are 6 members of the President's Cabinet on the SLRP Committee, is there a feeling that they come in with an agenda that is already decided?

A: No, I do not feel they have their own agenda. We depend on them for a lot of information.

Buddy Grah: We are putting together a plan, our input is needed in shaping this plan. It is to be a bottom up process.

Comment: Our concern is that it will be two years before we see the results of this input and what could happen until our input is taken seriously.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:30 pm